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# CHEADLE Rural District Council

## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the year ending  
December 31st, 1951



# CHEADLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER

### OF HEALTH

for the year ending December 31st, 1951.

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# CHEADLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ending December 31st, 1951.

### 1. Introduction

*To the Chairman and Members of the Cheadle Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year 31st December 1951

The arrangement of the report follows the lines of that submitted in 1950. I am indebted to the Sanitary Inspectors for their report in Section 9 and to the Surveyor for the Appendix to the report and for help elsewhere in the compiling of the Report.

I would again stress that this Report is only a chapter in the history of the Rural District and not a comprehensive survey. Matters of importance to the health of the District which have received comment in recent years have not again been automatically included if no change has occurred

There has been no intention to arrange the various sections in order of importance, as I consider them all to be important. I would however suggest that it is unfortunate that the form of report may result in the most important Appendix being the last section to be read.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. TOMLIN.

Council Offices,  
Cheadle,  
Staffs.

October, 1952

# General Information

*Chairman of the Rural District Council : Mr. P. CLOWES*

*Vice-Chairman of the Rural District Council : Mr. A. E. FOREMAN*

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1951 .

*Chairman : Mr. J. BYATT*

*Members : Mrs. R. Berry, Mrs. H. M. Gardner, Revd. F. W. Henshall,  
Messrs. J. H. Aberley, A. R. Appleby, W. A. Ashton, J. H. Bailey,  
J. Bentley, J. M. Berresford, R. L. Carr, P. Clowes, J. C. Cope,  
J. W. Crossley, J. Finnikin, A. E. Foreman, J. R. Goodwin, S. E.  
Goodwin, D. Heath, W. H. Hewitt, J. Hurst, J. S. Jackson, S. W. Lees,  
S. J. Looker, F. Massey, G. W. Morris, J T. Slack, J. W. Slater,  
A. Smith, H. Snow.*

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

E. H. TOMLIN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.  
A. P. KEEY, M.S.I.A., Senior Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector.  
R. COMLEY, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector.  
K. M. HAWKINS, Clerk

## STAFF, ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT

JOHN WILLIAM BURTON, M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I. Engineer and Surveyor.  
TREVOR POULTON HUGHES, A.M.I.Mun.E., Engineering Assistant.  
HAROLD POINTON, Architectural and Town Planning Assistant.  
KENNETH JOHN RATCLIFFE, Engineering Assistant.  
HENRY FREDERICK PARRINGTON, A.I.M.S., Town Planning Assistant.  
PHILIP J. DREWRY, Architectural Assistant.  
JACK SHAW, D.L.C.(Hons.), Engineering Assistant.  
WILLIAM HENRY HOBSON, Clerk.  
JOSEPH WILLIAM SHAW, Clerk.  
HYLDA JEAN JAMES, Shorthand Typist.  
MOLLIE WRATH, Shorthand Typist.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ...	60,291
Registrar General's Estimate of resident population ... ... ...	32,880
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book ... ...	9,041
Rateable Value ... ... ... ... ...	£109,208
Sums represented by a penny rate ... ... ... ...	£427 1s. 6d.

### 3. Social Conditions in the Area.

No new major industries were opened during the year and in general there was full employment, although at the end of the year it had become apparent that the textile trade would not be finding the markets to enable them to maintain production. Textile factories in the Rural District employ upwards of 700 in female labour, but the difficulties of the textile industry and their effect upon the people had not become fully manifest in 1951 and will be better dealt with in a future report.

Of recent years it has become manifest we will in the future have to provide for a high proportion of elderly people. Voluntary Associations have been set up throughout the District with the object of helping the elderly to enjoy life and during the year a Committee was set up to co-ordinate this work in North Staffordshire of both local voluntary associations and the various local government welfare, health and allied services.

The District Council has the responsibility under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948 of securing removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. Only one case was brought to light where such action might have been needed, but it proved possible to arrange for the individual's voluntary admission to hospital.

A common cause of complaint in the winter months was fuel rationing. Especially in the older type of house with its uneconomical hearth, stone walls, and lack of damp course, it often proved difficult to make the quota last out. With many of these houses the only way to keep them reasonably free from damp is by maintaining a good fire. I feel that we may well be able to adapt ourselves to a lower house temperature than we have been used to, provided the atmosphere and clothes we wear are reasonably dry. Damp cold however is undoubtedly bad for us.

### 4. Health Statistics.

Statistical Table A shows the general rates of births and deaths, and also rates of notification and deaths from certain specific diseases for Cheadle in comparison with those for England and Wales as a whole and certain classes of towns.

Statistical Table B gives details of actual figures of births and deaths as supplied by the Registrar General.

Statistical Table C (which is for convenience placed in the Infectious Disease Section) shows the numbers and ages of notified infectious disease cases.

The following comment is made :

#### POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate for the District's population in mid. 1950 was 32,640. For 1950 and 1951 the average annual excess of births over deaths was 172. At the Census taken in April 1951 the District's populations was returned as 32,839. From this it will be seen that the Registrar General's estimate is unlikely to have an error of more than 0.1 per cent. and in consequence we can assume that statistical rates quoted in recent years have been most satisfactorily accurate.

The estimated mid. 1951 population was 32,880.

## LIVE BIRTHS.

509 live births were registered in 1951 as against 484, 507, 529, 684, 609 and 528 in the preceding years. It is encouraging to note that the total number of births has not continued to fall.

The Live Birth Rate of 15.5 is the same as that for England and Wales, but if the Registrar General's Area Compatibility factor for births of 1.06 is taken into account the position of Cheadle will be seen to be slightly better than that of the country as a whole

## STILL BIRTHS.

With 14 still births a rate of 0.43 per 1,000 is greater than that of 0.36 for England and Wales but the total numbers are too small for this to have any real significance.

## DEATHS.

344 deaths were registered as against 304, 348, 291, 333, and 322 in the preceding years

The general death rate of 10.44 per 1,000 of the population (or 10.86 if the Area Compatibility factor for deaths of 1.04 is used) compares favourably with that of 12.5 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

## INFANT MORTALITY

21 deaths of infants under 1 year of age occurred compared with 13, 16 and 11 in the preceding years.

16 of these deaths were from causes against which we should at least practice preventive measures although we can not always guarantee success. Seven of the deaths were from infectious disease and seven were from prematurity.

The infant mortality rate of 41.4 per 1,000 related births compares unfavourably with that 29.6 for England and Wales, but again it should be borne in mind that the total numbers are small and there is a relatively large chance variation from year to year

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

No deaths occurred during the year which were directly attributable to pregnancy or childbirth

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

Numbers of deaths from selected causes are shown in Table B, the commonest being Heart Disease 106, Cancer 55, and Cerebral Haemorrhage 41. It will be seen these three conditions were together responsible for 202 out of a total of 344 deaths.

STATISTICAL TABLE "A"

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality  
 Maternal Mortality and Case rate for certain Infectious  
 diseases in the year 1951. Provisional figures based on  
 Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident pop. 25,000 — 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adm. County	Cheadle Rural District
<b>Births</b>	Rates per 1,000	Home	Population : —		
Live Births .. .	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8	15.54
Still Births .. .	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37	0.43
<b>Deaths :— .. .</b>					
All Causes .. .	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1	10.44
Typhoid and Paratyphoid .. .	0.00	0.00	0.00	..	0.03
Whooping Cough ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03
Diphtheria .. .	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	..
Tuberculosis .. .	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.38	0.12
Influenza .. .	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23	0.24
Smallpox .. .	0.00	0.00	0.00	..	..
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioen- cephalitis) .. .	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.03
Pneumonia .. .	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61	0.37
Notifications Corrected.					
Typhoid Fever ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	..
Paratyphoid Fever ..	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.55
Meningococcal Infection .. .	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	..
Scarlet Fever ..	1.11	1.20	1.20	1.10	0.85
Whooping Cough ..	3.87	3.62	4.00	3.11	4.18
Diphtheria .. .	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	..
Erysipelas .. .	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.12
Smallpox .. .	0.00	0.00	0.00	..	
Measles .. .	14.07	13.93	14.82	14.64	9.20
Pneumonia .. .	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.72	1.68
Acute poliomyelitis including polioen- cephalitis					
Paralytic .. .	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.09
Non-paralytic ..	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03
Food poisoning ..	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.23	..
<b>Deaths.</b>	Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
All causes under 1 year of age ..	29.6	33.9	27.6	26.4	41.4
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age ..	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7	4.1
Notifications Corrected	Rates per 1,000	Total (Live and Still)		Births	
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia .. .	10.66	13.77	8.08	14.90	3.82

STATISTICAL TABLE "B"

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN CHEADLE RURAL DISTRICT, 1951

DEATHS	Male	Female
Total. All Causes....	197	147
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	1
Measles	1	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Influenza	4	4
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0	0
Tuberculosis of the respiratory organs	2	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	0
Syphilis	0	0
Cancer, malignant disease	28	27
Diabetes	2	1
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	15	26
Heart Disease	66	40
Other Circulatory Diseases	9	7
Bronchitis	13	6
Pneumonia (all forms)	9	3
Other respiratory diseases	0	0
Peptic Ulcer	1	1
Diarrhoea, etc., (under 2 years)	1	1
Appendicitis	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases	0	0
Acute and Chronic Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	4
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
Other Puerperal causes	0	0
Congenital debility, premature birth, malformation, etc.	2	2
Suicide	2	1
Road Traffic Accidents	7	0
Other Violence	2	2
Other defined causes	20	21
<i>Special causes</i>		
Smallpox	0	0
Poliomyelitis	0	0
Polioencephalitis	1	0
Enteritis or diarrhoea under two years of age	1	1
<i>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</i>		
Total	15	6
Legitimate	15	6
Illegitimate	0	0
Deaths of Infants under four weeks	9	4
<b>BIRTHS</b>		
Live Births — Total	253	256
Legitimate	244	251
Illegitimate	9	5
Still Births — Total	7	7
Legitimate	6	7
Illegitimate	1	0
Population (Resident)	.	32,880

## Water Supplies

Tables showing the extent of the water supply to properties in the different parishes and water analysis are again included in this report. I think it may be said without fear of contradiction that the extent of the piped supply is commendable for a rural district.

Reference to the Surveyor's Appendix to the Report shows that very considerable extensions were carried out during the year.

It is hoped in the near future to give a better supply to Ipstones and Foxt where a combination of increased users and aging distribution pipes has resulted in low pressure, and to Oakamoor where the private supplies have on occasions shown signs of impurity.

As pointed out in my report for 1950 the various sources of supply have been linked so that should the normal supply to a district be out of commission for any reason an alternative is available.

I consider myself most fortunate in being Medical Officer of Health in a District where the importance and value of a pure water supply is realised.

During the year, however, proposals were made as to the setting up of a North Staffordshire Water Board which would take over the Council's Services.

Undoubtedly some water undertakings are too small to be economically efficient, some areas have inadequate supplies and a combination of authorities would be of value. Nevertheless I can not but help feeling that were administration of our water services to be taken over by a District Board our progress would be slowed down until some of our neighbours had been brought up to the standard we had already attained.

It might be thought that the slowing down of our expansion might be justified in view of the undeveloped water services in other districts. I would say that our expansion should carry on at its own rate until not only every hamlet but every farm has as far as possible been assisted towards a good water supply. Let other districts speed up their expansion but not at the expense of us. Impure milk may be as dangerous as impure water. A proper water supply to a farm is necessary for clean milk production, and as a dairy farming district which "exports" its milk I feel that helping every farm to attain a good water supply should be one of our foremost public health objects.

I trust that if a decision has to be made regarding the setting up of any combined scheme it will be one which allows the Cheadle Rural District to continue to control the rate and direction of expansion of its water services, as I feel the good progress made so far is an indication that good progress would be continued in the future.

# CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER

	Ipstones Fox	Werrington	Alton	Whiston	Cauldon	Kingsley	Tean	Cheadle
Total solids dried at 212°F	8.0	23.0	11.5	10.5	18.0	8.5	26.0	32.5
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.0004	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.0004
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0100	Nil	0.0004	0.0004	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.0008
Nitric Nitrogen	0.02	0.62	0.04	0.10	0.05	0.43	1.18	
Chlorine	0.9	1.30	1.20	0.90	1.4	2.00	2.4	
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs at 80°F.	0.181	0.004	0.006	0.006	0.002	0.008	0.016	0.008
Appearance	Extremely trace	No Colour	Extremely trace	Extremely trace	Trace or Suspended Matter	Minute trace Suspended Matter	Minute trace Suspended matter	Extremely trace Suspended matter
P.H. Value	6.2	Nil	None	Nil	Minute trace of Iron 6.7	Minute trace of Iron 6.2	None	None
Injurious metallic contamination	Minute trace of Iron 6.2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Extremely trace of Iron 6.7	Extremely trace of Iron 6.2	None	Extremely trace of Iron 7.0

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION - WATER SAMPLES 1951.

Plate Count	Yeastrel agar: 2 days 22°C aerobically 2 days 37°C aerobically	Ipstones Fox	Werrington	Alton	Whiston	Cauldon	Kingsley	Tean	Cheadle
Probable number of coliform:		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MacConkey 2 days at 37°C	25*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Approximate proportions of faecal and non-faecal coli:		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Faecal coli per cent.		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-faecal coli	"	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

\* Sample taken December 1951. Satisfactory on re-testing 1952

## Housing

Having expressed my general views on the housing situation reasonably fully in the two previous reports, I will confine myself here to pointing out that progress made in housing and some of the difficulties encountered are treated on in the Sanitary Inspectors' Section and the Surveyor's Appendix to the report. aTaaa

I would however offer a word of warning against assessing our housing progress on the total number of houses "erected and completed" in any one year.

Taking the figures of houses "erected and completed" in the Surveyor's report we have :

1948	...	...	...	...	162
1949	...	...	...	...	122
1950	...	...	...	...	131
1951	...	...	...	...	77

It might at first sight appear that in 1951 there had been a very considerable fall in building output, but further consideration shows that 90 houses were under construction at the year end. To instance an absurdity we might have had 1,000 houses started during 1951 all of which were actually completed on 1st January, 1952. We would have done a good job, but our figure of "houses completed" for 1951 would have been NIL.

## 7 Sewage and Refuse Disposal

Details of sewer extensions and the provision of two sewage disposal plants together with details of the refuse collection arrangements are supplied by the Surveyor in his Appendix to this Report.

No major improvements can be claimed for the year 1951, the sewerage schemes for Draycott, Kingsley and Ipstones still being in the "embryo" stage.

## 8. Inspection and Supervision of Food

Comment hereon is made in Section 9 in so far as general supervision of the District food supplies is concerned and I would confine myself to pointing out that it was not found necessary to make use of the new Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938, other than by using them to point out the standards of cleanliness in the food trade for which we are striving.

In my report for 1950 I commented at some length on the new arrangements for supervision introduced with the Milk and Dairies Regulations, and I expressed the opinion that only time would show whether the multiplicity of inspecting authorities would be able to help towards the provision of a cleaner and safer milk supply. I think therefore I should comment on the fact that while in 1950 the result of Methylen Blue Tests for cleanliness of milk showed 34.4 per cent of 456 samples to be unsatisfactory in 1951 only 18.7 per cent. of 578 samples were considered unsatisfactory. Whether better hygiene or colder weather was responsible, the improvement was considerable, but we still have far to go before I abandon my personal opinion that pasteurised or sterilised milk is the only safe milk.

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## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified	11	17	61	76
Final numbers after correction				
Ages—				
0 . . . . .	..	..	10	6
1 . . . . .	..	1	16	15
3 . . . . .	4	1	13	27
5 . . . . .	5	8	20	27
10 . . . . .	2	6	2	..
15 . . . . .	..	..	..	..
25 and over . . . . .	..	1	..	1
Age unknown . . . . .	..	..	..	..
Total	11	17	61	76
	Ac. Pneumonia		Dysentery	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified	30	25	27	20
Final numbers after correction				
Ages—				
0 . . . . .	2	6	10	2
5 . . . . .	10	3	1	1
15 . . . . .	6	4	8	7
45 . . . . .	8	3	6	9
65 and over . . . . .	3	7	2	1
Age unknown . . . . .	1	1	..	..
Total	30	25	27	20
	Erysipelas		Meningococcal Infection	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified	3	1	..	..
Final numbers after correction				
Ages—				
0 . . . . .	..	..	..	..
5 . . . . .	..	..	..	..
15 . . . . .	1	..	..	..
45 . . . . .	1	1	..	..
65 and over . . . . .	..	..	..	..
Age unknown . . . . .	1	..	..	..
Total	3	1	..	..

“C”

## BY SEX AND AGE GROUPS

Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polioencephalitis		Measles (excluding rubella)		Diphtheria	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
3	0	..	1	159	143	..	..
..	..	..	..	6	3	..	..
1	..	..	..	38	29	..	..
..	..	..	..	46	45	..	..
1	..	..	1	68	62	..	..
..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..
1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	..	..	1	159	143	..	..
Smallpox		Ac. encephalitis all forms		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid fevers	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Food Poisoning		Other Notifiable Diseases		Originally Notified		Final Numbers after correction	
M.	F.	Puerperal pyrexia	Ophthalmia neonatorum	M.	F.	M.	F.
..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
..	..	1	..	1	..	1	..

## 9 Sanitary Supervision of the District including Factories and Workshops.

### REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

##### HOUSING.

Owing to the operation of the Rent Restriction Acts and the continued rises in the cost of materials and labour many of the older properties are not let at a rent which will pay for even minor repairs. It is the older properties with which the Sanitary Inspector has more to deal. To save expense some owners carry out their own repairs and needless to say, if the man is not a tradesman the work is unsatisfactory and in very short time it requires further attention. Property will continue to deteriorate just so long as the Rent Restriction Acts remain in their present form as has been mentioned in previous Annual Reports.

Nevertheless the Local Authority has a duty to perform under both the Housing and Public Health Acts in such cases through their Sanitary Inspectors.

##### SECTION 47.

During the year payments were made under this "Conversion" section in respect of twenty-seven properties for the conversion of pails to water closets.

Estimates received amounted to £751 6s. 2d. but the work was carried out for £625 14s. 7d., and grants amounted to £320 9s. 7d., being an average of £23 3s. 6d. per conversion.

The cost per conversion shows an increase of £1 1s. 6d. over the average for 1950, again showing the upward trend in costs for labour and materials.

##### HOUSING ACT 1949

Applications are still received from owners of property who under the above Acts wish to take advantage of the grant given where improvements are effected under Section 20.

During the year two improvement grants were sanctioned by the Council and confirmed by the Ministry of Local Government and Planning, amounting to (i) £192 and (ii) £209 being in each case half the cost of the improvements provided.

In all, eight applications were received but most were eliminated for various reasons including a disinclination to carry out general repairs to the existing property, commencing the work before the full consideration and sanction of the Council and Ministry, or because the cost of the improvement exceeded the £600 laid down.

Of these eight applications, six were rejected and two approved. No applicant whose case was passed by the Council was rejected by the Ministry.

## RODENT CONTROL

The Council continue to employ a full time operative who has this year dealt with 69 private dwellings, an increase over last year. This increase is due to block treatments carried out at Alton and Oakamoor.

The occupiers of private dwellings still get a free service.

Number of Contracts entered into during the year ...	22
Number of Treatments carried out on such Contracts ...	85
Number of Treatments carried out on Local Authority Properties ...	58
Number of Treatments carried out on Private Dwellings ...	69

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Number of visits ...	9
Number of disinfections ...	17

## BAKEHOUSES

Number on Register ...	9
Number of visits ...	18

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Number of premises in use ...	6
Number of visits ...	19

## OFFENSIVE TRADES

Number on Register ...	3
Number of inspections ...	65

## SHOPS ACTS

Number of inspections ...	163
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## PETROLEUM ACTS

Petroleum Licenses issued ...	78
Carbide Licenses issued ...	0
Number of inspections ...	10

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Number on Register ...	125
Number using Mechanical Power ...	78
Number of inspections ...	44

## DETAILS OF MISCELLANEOUS FOOD SURRENDERED

347 tins of Miscellaneous Foods.

45 packets of Dried Peas

4lb. Butter

3½lb. Tea

3½lb. Cheese

36 Packets of processed Cheese.

75½lbs. Cooked Ham.

## LETTING OF HOUSES

Again this year much time was spent in dealing with applications for rehousing.

Number of houses occupied during the year ...	62
Number of persons rehoused ...	243
Number of persons housed per dwelling ...	3.9

## FOOD

Regular inspection takes place of foods of all kinds. Public slaughter houses administered by the Ministry of Food are established without the district at Stoke-on-Trent and at Leek from which supplies of butchers meat are brought into this district. Inspection takes place there and we only get a very small portion of meat unfit for human consumption with which we deal.

Nevertheless tinned foods in a remarkable variety are surrendered voluntarily by the tradesmen who are always keen to get the coupon value. Many imported meats, hams and other pork products are found to be unfit for consumption in increasing quantities. Cooked hams are the chief offenders.

The odd snack bars and other food preparation premises in the district are regularly inspected.

Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 were adopted by the Council in 1949.

Generally speaking an improvement, though slow, has been made in the cleanliness of the food shops and the way in which the various foods are now displayed gives them a most attractive appearance.

## WATER

Samples of water are taken as a regular routine of all public and private water supplied by mains within the district. Generally speaking these samples taken both for Chemical and Bacteriological examination have proved to be satisfactory

A Scheme has commenced for a better service for Foxt and Ipstones where both quality and quantity could be improved upon.

With regard to the quality of some of the waters, on chemical analysis these have been found to have an erosive action on lead.

Precautions have been taken to rectify this before the water goes through for supply with satisfactory results.

The only form of Bacterial contamination in samples of water we have experienced is from the incompletely sterilized tap.

Of the properties inspected under the Rural Housing Survey, 5,252 or 93.3 of the houses have a piped water supply.

The table hereunder gives the number of houses inspected in the Rural Housing Survey for the Hobhouse Report supplied with water from a Piped supply giving the approximate population so supplied for each parish and the number of standpipes and number of persons who obtained water from these. Houses with a rateable value of over twelve pounds, Council houses and farm houses were not included.

Parish

	Number of properties with mains water laid on	Population using same	Number of Stand taps	Population using same
ALTON ... ... ... ..	173	590	66	231
BLORE... ... ... ..	0	0	0	0
CAVERSWALL ... ... ..	1091	3600	36	118
CHEADLE... ... ..	1527	5404	68	225
CHEECKLEY ... ..	407	1343	65	214
CHEDDINGTON ... ..	524	2499	7	35
CONSALL... ... ..	0	0	0	0
COTTON ... ..	28	146	1	5
DILHORNE... ... ..	57	228	28	112
DRAYCOTT ... ..	123	390	4	13
FARLEY ... ..	9	40	0	0
FORSBROOK ... ..	463	1508	14	45
IPSTONES ... ..	212	754	18	64
KINGSLEY... ... ..	61	193	13	41
OAKAMOOR ... ..	95	313	50	156
WATERHOUSES ... ..	104	338	7	23
Total... ... ..	4874	17346	378	1282

#### SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT

Description of Visits	Inspections and observations made	NOTICES SERVED	Notices Complied with
		Informal	
Complaints and Nuisances ... ..	561	102	19
Food Premises ... ..	97	...	...
Food Inspection... ..	69	...	...
Slaughterhouses ... ..	19	...	...
Farms and Dairies ... ..	95	...	...
Shops Acts... ..	163	...	...
Bakehouses ... ..	18	...	...
Ice Cream Premises...	47	...	...
Water Samples ... ..	51	...	...
Water Supplies ... ..	109	12	11
Drainage ... ..	303	13	17
Conversions... ..	272	64	63
Connections to Sewer ... ..	11	...	...
Water connections ... ..	39	...	...
Housing (re Letting) ... ..	846	...	...
Housing Act 1949 ... ..	81	...	...
Housing Act 1936 ... ..	23	...	...
Infectious Diseases ... ..	9	...	...
Disinfections ... ..	17	...	...

Disinfestation	2	...	...	...
Prevention of Damage by Pests	92	...	...	...
Factories and Workshops	44	1	...	...
Scavenging	97	16	1	13
Schools	11	...	...	...
Smoke Observations	2	...	...	...
Keeping of Animals	3	...	...	...
Petroleum Acts	10	...	...	...
Interviews and other visits	384	...	...	...
TOTAL	3560	209	111	246

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

There are 125 Factories and Workshops on the Register. The Workshops comprise mainly of boot and shoe repairers, bakers, confectioners, milliners, tailors, joiners, plumbers and decorators, wheelwrights, motor car and motor cycle agents and repairers.

### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	47	44	1	...
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	78	...	...	...
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	125	44	1	...

### 2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness (S.I.)	1	1	...	...
Overcrowding (S.2.)	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors	2	2	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient	...	...	...	...
Unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...
Not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	3	3	...	...

*Notifications*

Details of notifications are shown in Table C. Again the District was fortunate in its freedom from Diphtheria, Meningococcal Meningitis and Food Poisoning out-breaks. Comment on other diseases follows below:

*Scarlet Fever*

1951 was a year of low incidence with only twenty eight cases.

*Measles*

302 cases were notified during the year. Cases started to appear in June and prevalence of the disease increased until in December it might be said to have reached epidemic proportions which did not abate until March of the following year. The period of prevalence seemed unduly prolonged when compared with previous years. Villages with an especially high incidence were Caverswall, Blythe Bridge, Forsbrook, Alton and Kingsley

One death occurred in a child of ten months.

*Whooping Cough*

Of 137 cases notified ninety per cent. occurred in the first three months of the year, being a continuation of the epidemic starting in 1950. In all between October 1950 and March 1951 there were approaching 240 cases notified.

One death occurred from whooping cough.

*Dysentery*

47 cases were notified during the year. These were the tail end of the epidemic described in detail in by report for 1950. Twenty two of the cases occurred in January and thereafter about four each month until August, after which no further cases were notified.

The outbreak afforded some indication of the extent of the infectivity in the environment of the rural district, a survey being made of 48 cases where there was either a bacteriological or a "cast iron" clinical diagnosis.

There were twenty six primary cases of which 11 were adults, 13 children of school age and 2 infants below school age. These twenty six primary cases had a hundred and two house contacts of whom only 22 showed evidence of becoming infected. Second infections occurred in 13 of the 26 houses.

As might be expected for a number of reasons secondary infection was more common in children than adults and proportionately more common with the decreasing age of the child contact.

*Influenza*

In January and February a wave of Influenza swept down the District apparently from north to south, in contrast to our usual spread from west to east.

It is probable these epidemics originated in Liverpool and reached us in the first place by Leek rather than the Potteries. The disease gave rise to the usual rate of absenteeism in schools and factories but was not of a very severe type and did not cause any exceptionally heavy pressure of work on local practitioners. Nevertheless eight deaths in older people were recorded as being due to Influenza.

### *Pneumonia.*

Fifty four cases of pneumonia were notified and there were twelve deaths. There were nineteen deaths from bronchitis. These deaths mostly occurred in old people. One cannot help associating the very prolonged if not particularly severe "winter" with the fact that the number of deaths from these respiratory diseases was above the average.

### *Diphtheria.*

As in 1949 and 1950 we again had no diphtheria notified.

During the year 345 children under five and 243 children over five years received a primary course of immunisation and in addition 1,118 children received a re-inforcing injection. Corresponding figures for 1950 were 388, 32 and 39.

### *Anterior Poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis.*

In all four cases were notified. Three children living in Cheadle, Werrington and Cheddleton made a good recovery. The fourth case, an adult, died.

In no instance was there any suggestion of secondary cases, and in no case was there any obvious source of infection.

### *Paratyphoid Fever.*

In January a case of para-typhoid fever was diagnosed in a female patient at St. Edward's Hospital, Cheddleton, who subsequently died.

An obvious source of infection was found in a patient in the same ward who has in the past been a carrier and was found to be again excreting paratyphoid organisms.

Examination of the contacts showed a number who presumably had also had the disease in a mild form and were infective. In all sixteen cases were found and notified, all in female patients.

Facilities for isolation of such cases were far from satisfactory owing to shortage of staff and lack of understanding in the patients.

However, a most vigorous policy of inoculation of all possible contacts was pursued and by good fortune no further cases occurred.

In September two cases occurred in Cheadle and Winkhill respectively. In neither case was it possible to trace a source of infection or to establish any connection between the two individuals or with St. Edward's Hospital.

These cases were isolated in hospital and gave rise to no secondary cases subsequently although it was found one had infected a man in Leek before her complaint was diagnosed.

### *Tuberculosis ...*

Twenty six new cases of Tuberculosis were notified as against 16, 20, 19, and 25 in the preceding years.

Four deaths occurred as against 8, 10, 8 and 11 in preceding years. Details are shown in the table below.

# TUBERCULOSIS      NEW CASES AND MORTALITY 1951

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES								DEATHS							
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE												
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	2	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
35	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	9	9	5	3	1	2	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0

## *Infectious Disease Reports from Schools.*

The following cases of actual or suspected infectious diseases were reported from schools:

Influenza ... ... ... ...	195	Whooping Cough... ... ...	91
Mumps... ... ... ...	117	Measles ... ... ... ...	76
German Measles ... ... ...	3	Scarlet Fever ... ... ...	12
Chicken Pox... ... ... ...	97	Anterior poliomyelitis ...	1

## 11. Health Services in the District.

General provision of health services remains as outlined in my report for 1949.

The former Cheadle Isolation Hospital remained closed throughout the year, although it is understood it is to be re-opened by the Regional Hospital Board to take Maternity Cases.

A need which has not yet been provided for satisfactorily is that of the old person somewhat infirm or mentally confused who while not requiring full hospital facilities does need more care and supervision than can be given in the alternative institutions.

# APPENDIX

## DETAILS SUBMITTED BY THE SURVEYOR

### *Cheddleton Water Supply*

The amount of water pumped from 1st January 1951 to 31st December 1951 was 108,034,400 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 295,985 gallons.

### *Tean Water Supply*

The amount of water pumped from 1st January 1951 to 31st December 1951 was 20,910,000 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 57,288 gallons.

### *Hollington Water (Hollington Supply)*

The amount of water supplied to the general public from this station from 1st January 1951 to 31st December 1951 was 23,381,800 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 64,060 gallons.

### *Cauldon Lowe Water Supply*

The amount of water pumped from 1st January 1951 to 31st December 1951 was 15,973,000 gallons which gives a daily consumption of 43,764 gallons.

## HOUSING

The number of houses erected and completed during the year was

By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	77

## DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING ESTATES

### *Weston Coyney Housing Estate*

During the year there have been 10 houses completed and 36 still under construction. The first portion of the streetworks have been finally surfaced and completed and adopted as highways repairable by the Staffs. County Council.

### *Cheddleton Housing Site.*

During the year 10 houses have been completed and 16 are still under construction. The first portion of the streetworks have been finally surfaced and completed

### *Cheadle Housing Estates*

### *Victory Crescent*

The construction of houses on this site have been completed and the street works have been finally completed and taken over by the Staffs. County Council.

### *Well Street*

The Council have acquired a site of approximately 8.20 acres in Well Street and Keeling Road, Cheadle, which will accommodate approximately 96 houses. All foul and surface water sewers and preliminary streetworks have been laid. During the year 10 dwellings have been completed including four old aged persons bungalows.

There are 32 houses still under construction.

### *Cresswell Housing Estate*

The development of this site has been totally completed by the erection of eight houses including the final surfacing of the streetworks and the latter adopted by the Staffs. County Council.

### *Werrington Housing Site*

During the year 16 houses have been completed and six houses are still under construction.

### *Vicarage Road, Tean*

Six houses were completed on this site.

## REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council have further extended the direct labour refuse collection service and the Council's vehicles consist of three night soil tank vehicles, six covered ash collection vehicles and two open type lorries.

The average number of men engaged on this service is 45.

The Council's vehicles and other mechanical equipment are maintained by the Council's own maintenance staff. Only one parish is now cleansed by Contract. The remaining fifteen parishes are served with the Council's direct labour system. A weekly collection of ashes and night soil is operated.

## SEWER EXTENSIONS

### *Hockley Cottages, Foxt.*

The laying of a 6-in. diameter gravity sewer together with the construction of a small sewage disposal plant and effluent drain has been completed. The plant serves nine properties at Foxt. The sewage disposal plant comprises of a septic tank, percolating filter with rotary distributor and Humus tank.

### *Tithe Barn, Alton*

The Council's direct labour staff have completed the construction of a new sewage disposal works at Tithe Barn, Alton. The new works which is dealing with sewage from 45 existing properties consists of Continuous Flow Sedimentation Tanks, Bacteria Bed, Humus Tanks and Sludge Beds. The works is providing an excellent final effluent and has abated the nuisance which existed at the old works at Saltersford Lane, which has now been superceded.

### *Wetley Rocks Sewer Extension*

The laying of 960 yards of 6-in. diameter G.S. Sewer adjacent to the Leek - Cheadle Road at Wetley Rocks has been completed. The sewer will serve nine existing properties in the area and will abate an existing nuisance caused by the discharge of crude sewage on to open land, adjacent to the road.

### *Sewer Extension at Caverswall Wood*

165 yards of 6-in. diameter G.S. sewer has been laid at Stansmore Road, Meir. This sewer takes the drainage from fourteen existing properties and has served to abate a nuisance caused by overflowing septic tanks in the area. The sewer is connected to the City of Stoke-on-Trent Drainage System and the sewage is treated by the Corporation.

## *Draycott Sewerage Scheme*

The scheme for the drainage of old and new Draycott has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the informal inquiry held. Formal approval to the scheme by the Ministry has been received and tenders invited. Actual work will be commenced almost immediately which it is anticipated will be completed prior to the completion of the main Blythe Valley Sewerage joint scheme.

## **WATER EXTENSIONS**

### *Cauldon Low Water Scheme*

The above scheme consisting of the laying of just over 11 miles of 3-in., 4-in. and 6-in. diameter C.I. water mains has now been completed. The scheme serves the villages of Cotton, Moneystone, Winkhill, Waterfall and Back o' the Brook, together with farms en route. The completion of this scheme was retarded due to various difficulties, but more particularly by the original Contractor going into liquidation, necessitating the appointment of a further Contractor to complete the scheme.

### *Tickhill Main Extension.*

The laying of 320 yards of 3-in. diameter water main has been completed and the extension serves three farms at Tickhill and will provide for future extension known as Sheepwash which also requires piped water. This extension will be made after consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture.

### *Wallmyres Borehole No. 2*

The sinking of a new borehole on the site of an existing well at Wallmyres Pumping Station has been completed and the borehole has been lined with steel tubes. This work has been carried out in order to provide a duplication of the present machinery as a safeguard against mechanical breakdown. The new borehole has been tested and found satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality. The pumping test proved that the bore-hole would yield 750,000 gallons per diem.

### *Consall Lane End Water Main Extension*

The laying of approximately 240 yards of 3-in. diameter C.I. water main has been completed at Consall Lane End. This extension supplies three properties in this area. The original supplies were from wells which failed during draught periods.

### *Water main extension - Checkley to Deadmans Green.*

800 yards of 4-in. diameter Cast Iron Water main has been laid at Checkley to afford a supply of water to the Blythe Valley Sewage Works at Deadman's Green and other properties en route.



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